



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the Secretary

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2015 Governor's Buy Local Cookout Menu Maryland Food Statistics

All of the food served at the 2015 Buy Local Cookout has been provided by local growers, producers, watermen and chefs. The following statistics on Maryland agriculture are from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, except where noted.

Overall: Maryland has about 12,400 farms covering more than 2 million acres. The average farm size is 165 acres. According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, the average net farm income per farm was \$38,920. The total cash farm income for all commodities raised and produced was nearly \$2.3 billion for 2012.

Chicken: Maryland is a national leader in broiler chicken production, ranking eighth among states in number of broilers produced and pounds produced. A broiler is a chicken raised specifically for meat production. Value of production from broilers was \$990 million in 2014; pounds produced totaled 1.5 billion. About 40 percent of the total cash farm income in Maryland comes from broiler production.

Grains: Total value of cash grains produced in the state – including corn, wheat, soybeans, and barley – is nearly \$617 million.

Cattle: All cattle and calves as of January 1, 2015 totaled 185,000 head. The value produced from cattle and calves were estimated at more than \$96 million in 2014.

Milk Production: As Maryland's third largest agricultural commodity, milk and dairy products accounted for more than \$243 million in cash receipts in 2014. Milk production from dairy cows on Maryland farms in 2014 is 980 million pounds. The annual average number of milk cows on all Maryland farms was 50,000 head.

Goats: On January 1, 2014, Maryland had 2,200 milk goats and 12,600 (11,600) meat and other goats.

Hogs and Pigs: In 2014, there were 47,000 head of hogs and pigs in Maryland, with cash receipts totaling about \$10.4 million.

Fresh Market Vegetables: The 2014 value of selected fresh market vegetables and melon crops produced in Maryland is \$26.2 million. The selected fresh market vegetables and melons included are sweet corn, watermelons, snap beans, cantaloupes, cucumbers, and spinach. Maryland farmers also grow asparagus, lima beans, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, collards, eggplant, garlic, herbs, honeydew melons, kale, lettuce, mustard greens, okra, onions, bell peppers, pumpkins, squash, tomatoes, and turnips.

Potatoes: The 2014 value of production for potatoes in Maryland was \$10.2 million.

Fruits and Nuts: According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, Maryland had 3,973 acres of land in orchards. The two largest crops, in terms of production, are apples and peaches. Maryland farmers also grow apricots, cherries, figs, grapes, nectarines, pears, persimmons, plums, almonds, chestnuts, hazelnuts, pecans, and walnuts.

Eggs: Maryland farmers produced 785 million eggs in 2014. Each laying bird produces between 280 and 320 eggs a year. The state's 500 small flocks – which are operations with fewer than 3,000 chickens – produce about 9.6 million eggs. Only nine producers have more than 3,000 chickens and those nine producers generate remaining eggs annually.

Honey: Honey production in the United States in 2014 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 178 million pounds. Honey prices increased to a record high during 2014 to 216.1 cents per pound, up 4 percent from 2013. As of July 16, 2015, there were 1,834 beekeepers and 14,333 bee colonies in 2,376 apiary locations registered with the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

Crabs: In 2014, Maryland landed 22.7 million pounds of hard shell crab with a dockside value of \$38.5 million and 1.5 million pounds of soft shell crab with a value of \$11.1 million. (*Source: Maryland Department of Natural Resources*)

Oysters: Maryland harvested more than 405,000 bushels of wild oysters in 2014-2015 season and welcomed many new aquaculture operations to the bay, each of which putting millions of oysters in the water. (*Source: Maryland Department of Natural Resources*)

Striped Bass: Rockfish is the state fish of Maryland. Out of the total 6.03 million pounds of fish harvested in 2013 for commercial use, 33.4 percent came from Maryland. This stock is an example of how science and policy can help to revitalize a fishery. The estimated dockside value of this fish in Maryland was over \$2 million. (*Source: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program*)

Wine: There are currently 75 licensed wineries in Maryland. In fiscal year 2014, Maryland wineries sold 384,498 gallons (approximately 1.94 million bottles) – an 11.6 percent increase over 2013. Annual sales of Maryland wine in 2014 are estimated at \$29 million. Maryland's wineries produce more than 420 different wines. Maryland wine is sold at more than 800 retailers, served at more than 300 restaurants, and shipped to customers in 30 states. (*Source: Maryland Wineries Association*)

According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, a total of 681 acres of grapes were grown in Maryland on 167 farms.

Distilleries: There are currently seven operating distilleries plus 12 in the licensing process.

Breweries: Maryland has 48 licensed breweries. In fiscal year 14, Maryland breweries sold 5,017,834 gallons, which is equivalent to 53.5 million bottles and \$66 million in sales.

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